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Patent  
Done

Attorney's Docket No. 000500-128

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of ) **BOX: RCE**  
Kent MALMGREN et al. )  
Application No.: 09/101,341 ) Group Art Unit: 1623  
Filed: July 8, 1998 ) Examiner: E. White  
For: METHOD OF PRODUCING AN )  
ABSORBENT MATERIAL, AN )  
ABSORBENT MATERIAL AND )  
ABSORBENT ARTICLES INCLUDING )  
THE MATERIAL IN QUESTION )

**AMENDMENT AND SUBMISSION OF REQUEST FOR CONTINUED  
EXAMINATION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action [final rejection] dated September 20, 2001, and further to the Notice of Appeal filed February 20, 2002, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

**IN THE CLAIMS:** ✓

*Please cancel claim 17 without prejudice or disclaimer.*

✓  
*Please replace claim 1 as follows:*

1. (Four Times Amended) A method of producing polysaccharide fibers, comprising the steps of dissolving a polysaccharide in a solvent to form a solution, and spraying the solution into a bath which contains a water-miscible organic solvent and a cross-linker, wherein the solvent

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